

Environmental Stewardship News- Happy Earth Month!!

From: Pam Swingle
Region 4 Pollution Prevention Program Manager

Lifecycle Building Challenge 2 Launched

Have you heard about Design for Deconstruction yet? Imagine these possibilities:

- a recreational building that breaks into 3 parts for transportation by truck to a new site
- the green mobile home with detachable rooms allowing for additions or remodeling
- a plug-in home with a specialized connector joint, allowing components to be unplugged quickly and without damage
- zip tape that allows drywall to be easily removed and reused

Building science fiction?! Not at all – these are *just a few examples of ideas from last year's Lifecycle Building Challenge!*

The Lifecycle Building Challenge 2 is a web-based competition from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Building Materials Reuse Association, the American Institute of Architects, Southface Energy Institute, and West Coast Green. This national competition invites engineers, designers, planners, contractors, builders, educators and students to submit their ideas for buildings and building materials that facilitate and anticipate future changes to and eventual adaptation, disassembly, or dismantling for recovery. For details and free registration visit www.lifecyclebuilding.org. **Please register online by June 15, 2008. Entries must be submitted by July 31, 2008.** If you have any questions, email: info@lifecyclebuilding.org

Earth Day Revolution

Source: Earth911.org

Almost four decades ago, with the help of college students, staff members and activities coordinator Denis Hayes, Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson founded the first Earth Day. **Earth Day 1970** was a grassroots effort to raise environmental awareness. Since then, Earth Day has evolved and expanded into an international day of awareness and activism. Thanks to the efforts of Gaylord and his crew along with many local and national organizations, Earth Day is now recognized universally as a day for communities, schools and colleges to come together to raise awareness about pressing environmental issues and to spark new initiatives.

The Earth Day Network, founded by the organizers of the first Earth Day, works year round to:

- Promote Civic Engagement
- Broaden the Meaning of "Environment"
- Mobilize Communities
- Support Groundbreaking Environmental Education Programs
- Support Earth Day Events and Actions around the World

According to the Earth Day Network, attendance at Earth Day events has grown exponentially since the beginning:

- Approximately **20 million people** in 1970
- An estimated **200 million people** attended events in 184 countries in 1990
- By the new millennium, the Internet helped this number swell to nearly **500 million**

Today, Earth Day events are promoted and organized by such environmental organizations such as the Environmental Protection Agency, World Wildlife Fund, and The Sierra Club. Events include musical performances, speeches from environmental activists and politicians, exhibits and celebrity appearances. If you happen to be busy on **April 22** this year (it is a Tuesday after all), do not despair. Like many days worthy of annual commemoration, Earth Day events are celebrated during

the week leading up to and following the actual day. Find events in your area by visiting [the Envirolink Network](#) or the [Earth Day Network](#). If you're looking to make a difference this Earth Day, find special events for product disposal, cleanup and educational seminars in your area using [Earth 911's recycling locator](#) or www.epa.gov/earthday

EPA Celebrated One Millionth Mercury Auto Switch Collection

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Stephen L. Johnson congratulated participants in the National Vehicle Mercury Switch Recovery Program (NVMSRP) for their collaborative work in collecting the one millionth mercury auto switch on Friday, February 29, 2008 at Pull-A-Part in Conley, Ga. This milestone highlights the NVMSRP partnership's progress toward reducing the amount of toxic mercury released into the air, water and land from scrap vehicles before they are flattened, shredded and melted to make new steel.

Mercury-containing convenience light switches were used in domestic cars built before 2003. The goal of the NVMSRP is to capture 80 to 90 percent of available vehicle mercury switches by 2017, when most pre-2003 vehicles are expected to be off the road and the program is scheduled to end. EPA estimates that about 8 tons per year of mercury are emitted from electric arc furnaces that melt scrap metal from retired cars. The NVMSRP began in 2006 and is a collaboration between EPA, states, automakers, auto dismantlers, auto scrap recyclers, steelmakers and environmental groups. Detailed information about the NVMSRP can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/mercury/switch.htm>

New 25,000-Acre Wind Farm Planned In Illinois

Dominion Resources Inc. plans to develop a 300-megawatt wind farm in Central Illinois. The Prairie Fork Wind Farm will consist of 150 to 200 wind turbines on about 25,000 acres in the Illinois counties of Christian and Montgomery. Dominion expects to begin construction in 2010, with commercial operation commencing as early as 2011. "Dominion is aggressively pursuing opportunities to add to its growing portfolio of emissions-free renewable generation," said Mark F. McGettrick, president and CEO of Dominion Generation. "We recognize that clean energy sources such as wind power is import in meeting our nation's energy needs and in attaining a balanced diverse energy portfolio."

Nonpoint Source Outreach Toolbox Available

There is now a CD edition of the Nonpoint Source Outreach Toolbox available. (publication # 841-C-05-003). The popular online resource released last year is now available to you even when you don't have internet access. With nearly 700 MB of multimedia files, this is a slightly scaled down version of all the resources available at www.epa.gov/nps/toolbox

EPA Green Scene Podcasts

Whether you're watching online or listening on your MP3 player, Green Scene Podcasts are a way to explore environmental issues with EPA's top experts. Through EPA's latest downloadable tool, Agency officials discuss how EPA is helping protect our nation's environment while providing useful tips and information on how to make a difference in local communities. Discussions will take place biweekly and run about five minutes. The Green Scene Podcast box is located on EPA's home page www.epa.gov. All discussions are archived and posted at www.epa.gov/newsroom/greenscene. EPA also has a series of Earth Day (Green Tip) Podcasts at <http://www.epa.gov/earthday/podcasts/>

Low Impact Living Site Offers Green Home Calculator

Source: Low Impact Living, 2008

The Low Impact Living website offers a wide array of products, practices and service providers to help meet a homeowner's environmental goals. Now, the site features an online green home calculator that allows users to input data on house size, energy, water, travel, waste, storm water and

other unique resource use categories. With these data, the calculator provides a Low Impact Living Index that gives each user a numerical score as well as a comparative ranking compared to an average American home. The calculator also allows users to select from dozens of efficiency technologies and lifestyle changes that would, if implemented, incrementally improve the user's index and ranking. Finally, for each improvement identified, the site offers a selection of commercially available products and sources for each. To access the calculator visit <http://www.lowimpactliving.com/>

Zero-VOC Paint to be Sold Exclusively at Home Depot

Fresh "Aire Choice" is a new paint brand without volatile organic compounds (VOCs) found exclusively at Home Depot stores. Fresh Aire Choice comes in 65 of Home Depot's most popular colors and carries a lifetime warranty on performance and appearance. Fresh Aire colorants are VOC-free as well as the paint, making Fresh Aire the first to be VOC-free from start to finish. The Greenguard Environmental Institute, a nonprofit organization that establishes stringent indoor air standards for indoor products, has certified Fresh Aire Choice paints. The paint cans, labels, packaging and color strips are both recyclable and made from recycled-content materials. For more information visit Metaefficient.com at http://www.azfamily.com/3tvexclusives/stories/phoenix_craft_corner_031408_paint.54b7e40e.html

Green Chip Stocks Finds Niche in Social Justice and Sustainable Living Firms

Source: Green Chips Stocks

Green Chip Stocks is a new investment advisory service aimed at directing funds toward the next generation of renewable energy and natural foods companies. Green Chip Stocks offers conventional investment services as well as special reports on national and international markets in renewable energy and other sustainable product sectors. The service aims to be a catalyst for the first real social-impacting profit trend of the 21st century. Interested parties can receive a free Green Chip Review e-letter through the service's website. For more information visit <http://www.greenchipstocks.com/about>

The Potential Impacts of Climate Change on U.S. Transportation

TRB and the Division on Earth and Life Studies (DELS) have released the pre-publication version of TRB Special Report 290, The Potential Impacts of Climate Change on U.S. Transportation, which explores the consequences of climate change for U.S. transportation infrastructure and operations. The report provides an overview of the scientific consensus on the current and future climate changes of particular relevance to U.S. transportation, including the limits of present scientific understanding as to their precise timing, magnitude, and geographic location; identifies potential impacts on U.S. transportation and adaptation options; and offers recommendations for both research and actions that can be taken to prepare for climate change. The report also summarizes previous work on strategies for reducing transportation-related emissions of carbon dioxide—the primary greenhouse gas—that contribute to climate change. [Five commissioned papers](#) used by the committee to help develop the report, [a summary of the report](#), and a [National Academies press release](#) associated with the report are available online. DELS, like TRB, is a division of the National Academies, which include the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, and National Research Council. For more information visit: http://www.trb.org/news/blurbs_detail.asp?id=8794

EVENTS CALENDAR

Apr 30 – May 2 – [Tennessee Solid/Hazardous Waste Conference](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/swm/conference/) in Gatlinburg, TN. For more information visit www.state.tn.us/environment/swm/conference/

April 22 – Earth Day

- Apr 22-24** - New World Biomass Conference in Albuquerque, NM. For more information visit www.newworldbiomass.com/
- Apr 23-24** - Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO) Mid-Year Meeting in Mobile, AL. For more information visit www.astswmo.org/meetings_upcomingmeetings.htm
- Apr 29-30** - Smart About Water Conference in Alexandria, VA. For more information visit www.nesc.wvu.edu/SMART/workshop.cfm
- May 4-10** - "The Possibilities are Endless ... Compost!" National Composting Week events are listed on this U.S. Composting Council website at <http://www.compostingcouncil.org/index.cfm>
- May 5-7** - Brownfields 2008 – The National Brownfields Conference in Detroit, MI. For more information visit www.brownfields2008.org
- May 5-7** - Carpet America Recovery Effort Annual Conference in Clearwater Beach, FL. For more information visit www.carpetrecovery.org
- May 5-8** - Joint Services Environmental Management Conference in Denver, CO. For more information visit www.jsemconference.com/2008/index.htm
- May 5-8** - Waste Expo 2008, Chicago, IL. For more information visit <http://wasteexpo.com/wasteexpo2008/public/enter.aspx>
- May 6** - From the Table to the Farm: Options for Diverting Food from Landfills at Atlanta Botanical Garden in Atlanta, GA. Pre-registration is required at recycle@dnr.state.ga.us
- May 6-7** - 2nd Georgia Air Quality & Climate Summit in Atlanta, GA. For more information visit <http://climatesummit.gatech.edu>.
- May 12** - Florida Construction & Demolition Debris Recycling & Management Workshop in Orlando, FL. For more information visit <http://swix.ws/upload/CDBrochure.pdf>
- May 13** - Carpet and Rug Institute Water Conservation Seminar in Dalton, GA. For more information visit <https://www.carpet-rug.org/about-cri/2008-water-meeting.cfm>
- May 19-23** - National Environmental Partnership Summit in Baltimore, MD. For more information visit www.environmentalsummit.org/
- May 19-20** - 8th Annual Worm Farm Conference in Raleigh, NC. For more information visit www.bae.ncsu.edu/workshops/worms08/
- May 19-21** - 16th Annual North American Waste-to-Energy Conference in Philadelphia, PA. For more information visit <http://nawtec.org/>
- May 19-21** - 2008 International Symposium on Electronics and the Environment and Electronics Recycling Summit in San Francisco. For more information visit www.electronicrecycling.org.
- May 20** - Stormwater and Watershed Specialty Conference in Atlanta, GA. For more information visit www.gawp.org/ under "Conferences and Events".
- May 27-30** - 2008 Household Hazardous Waste & Small Quantity Generator Workshop in Daytona Beach, FL. For more information visit www.nahmma.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=9
- Jun 3-6** - GreenBusiness Expo in Atlanta, GA. For more information visit www.greenbusinessworksexpo.net/
- Jun 4-6** - International Water Forum in Atlanta, GA. For more information visit www.cifalatlanta.org/workshops/sustainability/waterforum08/water08_index.html
- Jun 4-9** - North American Waste-to-Energy Conference in Philadelphia, PA. For more information visit <http://nawtec.org/>
- Jun 5 – World Environment Day** - www.unep.org/wed/2008/english/
- Jul 11 – World Population Day** - www.unfpa.org/wpd/
- Aug 11-15** - National Environmental Monitoring Conference in Washington, DC. For more information visit <http://nemc.us/>
- Aug 12-14**- Southeast Regional Quality Growth Conference: Building Sustainable Communities in the 21st Century in Charleston, SC. www.sustainablecommunitiesconference.org
- Aug 27-29** - Georgia Chamber of Commerce's 3rd Annual Environmental Conference in Savannah, GA. For more information visit www.gachamber.com

Jun 1-4 - 2008 Florida Recycles Today Conference in St. Pete Beach, FL. For more information visit www.recyclefloridatoday.org/conference.cfm

Jun 3-5 – 3rd National Product Stewardship Forum in Boston, MA. For more information visit www.productstewardship.us/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=284

Jun 17-20 - Small Business Ombudsman/Small Business Environmental Assistance Program National Conference in Harrisburg, PA. For more information visit www.sbeapconference.com

Jun 22-24 – Paper Recycling & Trade Show in Rosemont, IL. For more information visit www.paperrecyclingconference.com

Jun 22-24 – Plastics Recycling & Trade Show in Rosemont, IL. For more information visit <http://plasticsrecyclingconference.com/default.asp?conferencepageid=314>

Jun 24-26 - 3rd Annual Southeast Diesel Collaborative Partners' Meeting in Atlanta, GA. For more information visit www.southeastdiesel.org

Jun 24-27 - Air & Waste Management Association's 101st Annual Conference & Exhibition (ACE) in Portland, Oregon. For more information visit www.awma.org/ACE2008/

Jun 30-Jul 2 – Region 4 Annual DOD Environmental Conference in Atlanta, GA. More information TBA.

Jul 30-Aug 1 – 2008 Farms to Fuel Summit in Orlando, FL. For more information visit http://www.floridafarmtofuel.com/summit_2008.htm

Aug 3-7 – StormCon: North American Surface Water Quality Conference & Exposition in Orlando, FL. For more information visit www.stormcon.com/sc.html

Aug 25-27 – Georgia Recycling Conference in St. Simons, GA. For more information visit www.georgiarecycles.org

Sep 15-19 – **National Pollution Prevention Week** - www.p2.org/p2week/about.cfm

Sep 7-18 – E-SCRAP 2008 in Glendale, AZ. Visit www.e-scrapnews.com/

Sep 7-10 - Global Waste Management Symposium in Copper Mountain, CO. For more information visit www.wastesymposium.com

Sep 8-12 – 2008 Compost School in Raleigh, NC. For more information visit www.carolinacompost.com

Sep 17-18 - E-Scrap 2008 in Phoenix, Arizona. For more information visit www.e-scrapnews.com

Sep 18-19 - Tennessee P2 Conference at Montgomery Bell State Park in Burns, TN. For more information visit www.state.tn.us/environment/ea/pdf/ea_p2conf08flyer.pdf

Sep 18-20 – ISRI Commodities Roundtable Forum in Rosemont, IL. For more information call (202) 662-8500.

Sep 21-24 - National Recycling Coalition's 27th Annual Congress & Exposition in Pittsburgh, PA. For more information visit www.nrc-recycle.org/

Oct – Children's Health Month -

Oct 13-17 – 23RD Annual North American Hazardous Materials Management Association Conference in Burlington, VT. For more information visit www.nahmma.org

Oct 16-18 - Wastecon 2007 in Reno, NV. For more information visit www.swana.org

Oct 28-29 - Mississippi-Alabama Bays and Bayous Symposium in Biloxi, Miss. For more information visit <http://masgc.org/baysandbayous/>

Nov 15 – **America Recycles Day** – www.americarecyclesday.org

Nov 12-14 – SERDC Recycling Summit 2008 in Point Clear, Alabama. For more information visit www.serdc.org

Nov 19-21 – GreenBuild International Conference and Expo in Boston, MA. For more information visit www.usgbc.org

Dec 5-6 – WHEN Recycling Expo South in Moultrie, GA. For more information visit www.whenrecyclingexpo.com

Note: Mention of non-EPA documents, websites, meetings or presentations DOES NOT Constitute a U.S. EPA endorsement, only an acknowledgment that they exist and may be relevant.
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO SEND INFORMATION YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE TO

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